

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1917.

"Closed Till Further Notice"

No wild rejoicing will be caused in Honolulu by the announcement yesterday afternoon that the territorial marketing division's retail department is to close next Saturday.

The public has received the very definite impression that the territorial market was a splendid institution provided it was properly handled. It also received the impression that it was not well handled—that it needed first-class business management, and that under such management, it could be made a shining success.

In spite of handicaps, drawbacks and periods during which incompetent assistance almost wrecked the business end of the market, it had kept "plugging along" with a promise of better things in store. It was given large patronage at times—patronage of a sort which proved that a steady, profitable clientele could be built up.

That Honolulu's nearest approach to a public market should be closed when a curb on high prices is most needed is unfortunate. It is more than that. It has the aspect of surrender to adverse conditions. It has the aspect of "quitting."

Judging by the growing volume of comments around town, what is needed in this entire food situation is more fighting-stuff, more "pep" and more initiative; more vision and more executive energy. Murmurs of dissatisfaction are increasing fast. They are beginning to sound like the mutterings before a storm.

Who Is Responsible?

That discipline was at a low ebb in the national guard camp just ended at Kawaiiloa is the statement from several sources. In particular, it is declared that gambling was in progress night and day, indulgence in crap-shooting being among the main activities of a number of companies.

Under such circumstances it is not to be wondered at that there were "rough-houses" and near-riots. The blame for this is put largely upon the Filipinos, but the real responsibility rests on those who failed to establish and maintain ordinary military discipline.

That the last last week of the camp was frittered away is one of the declarations which are discrediting much of the good work which the guard has undoubtedly accomplished in the past. It is asserted, for instance, that the fine program laid out with the indorsement of regular army officers was not followed, and that entirely too much attention was paid to "show." As a result, under the surface there is a keen dissatisfaction which results in the talk of wholesale resignation of officers.

The identity of the responsible person or persons—the exact spot on which the blame should fall—has not been publicly stated, but it is patent that the criticism centers around Adj. Gen. Johnson. If the situation even approximates what it is represented to have been at Kawaiiloa, there ought to be a ventilation of the facts.

Hawaii has supported its national guard with a contribution of funds, public and private, which is probably unexampled in its generosity. Because the national guard here was felt to fill a need; because every opportunity was to be given the organization to fulfill its purpose, many blunders of detail, many incidents of jealousy and friction, were passed over lightly and the guard companies and officers afforded the benefit of every doubt. If, after years of loyal support, the guard is not at the acme of discipline and efficiency, no fault can be found with the quality of backing given by the community. The fault, if any, must be elsewhere. And if the guard is to progress, the cause for that fault must be eliminated.

In attendance at the camp were able regular army officers, who undoubtedly will make a report on the situation. That report ought to clear the atmosphere by placing the blame and pointing to remedial action. Under such circumstances, officers and men of the guard will be best serving patriotism, discipline and efficiency by withholding any intended resignations. It is reasonable to expect that the army will bring about any changes necessary in the interests of business administration and military efficiency.

A "CONSERVATION" MOVE.

(From the Maui News.)

Something occurred at Haiku on Wednesday of this week, which, to our mind, was the crossing of the boundary line between theoretical and practical conservation of vegetables and leguminous food. On that day the cannery made the start canning string beans for the market, the experiment to be carried out in cooperation with the agricultural extension division and the small farmers of Haiku. Five varieties of beans were included in the initial venture. The quantity of beans in the first pack will not be large, but if success is met with, and the demand proves anything like what it should be, the output will be increased.

Now, it is up to the consumers of Maui to get behind this experiment and make it a success. It is not convenient for many people to get fresh beans, with the result that they buy the canned article from the stores, shipped in here from California. Let all such housekeepers declare a tabu forthwith on imported goods and demand the Maui canned, string beans. The store may not have them the first day, but will lose no time in getting them, once the demand is started.

Germany makes a raft of singles, doubles and three-baggers but somehow most of her men are left out there on the bases.

Admiral W. C. Cowles

The death of Admiral Walter C. Cowles at Redlands, Cal., yesterday is received here with keen regret on the part of a great many people who knew this able naval officer and kindly, genial citizen.

Admiral Cowles and his wife and daughter identified themselves with Honolulu life during his tour of duty here and had a circle of friends as wide as that of any service family on Oahu. The admiral was commandant at Pearl Harbor during a period of notable construction, in which he took the keenest personal interest, in addition to his careful official supervision. It was a heavy blow to him when the drydock collapsed on the day the first section was pumped out—a disaster which set the completion of this great project back for several years. Admiral Cowles was among a number of army and navy men stationed here who enjoyed special popularity for their personal and official qualities, and in whose local activities Hawaii was fortunate.

1779—THE THANKSGIVING SPIRIT—1917.

(The following is sent out from Washington under authority of the Hoover bureau.)

Juliana Smith writes to "Dear Cousin Betty" of Thanksgiving dinner—1779—"Everything was good, though we did have to do without some things that ought to be used. Neither love nor (paper) money could buy raisins, but our good red cherries, dried without the pits, did almost as well.

"Of course we could have no roast beef. None of us have tasted beef this three years back as it all must go to the army, and too little they get, poor fellows. But, Nayquittymaw's hunters were able to get us a fine red deer, so that we had a good haunch of Venison on each table."

This was the Thanksgiving spirit in the midst of the American revolution. The colonies were engaged in the war that made America safe for democracy. Thanksgiving—1917—and America is engaged in a war to make the world safe for democracy. Juliana, writing in 1779, has given the text for Thanksgiving dinner in 1917. She has made all the points, the sermon is not needed: everything was good—we do without some things—our *own* cherries—roast beef for the soldiers.

As in 1779 let us plan our feast of Thanksgiving for 1917. Let us, a thankful people, celebrate the harvest-festival with the fruits from our own fields. The feast is in a sense a sacrificial offering, so we will do without many things because they are needed by our soldiers. But as of old, whether the food be plain or rich, let everything be good.

We are engaged in morality-making today, in the defense of right thinking and right doing against the German doctrine that nothing else matters so much as the German state. That there are discouragements and setbacks in our crusade against this hideous doctrine is not to be wondered at. But here is the test of optimism. It is easy enough to be cheerful when everything goes well, but what is optimism worth that cannot gauge the storm and yet outlive it? Nations, like men, must take counsel of their hopes rather than their fears—and having done that must help bring these hopes to pass by unremitting labor and unquestioning sacrifice. —Providence Journal.

It's safe to say that no commission given for work at the reserve officers' training-camp was received in Honolulu with greater satisfaction than that which went to A. L. C. Atkinson. "Jack" gave an example of instant response to patriotic opportunity and of hard, conscientious work which could not be excelled. It's Captain Atkinson now, and every man of his acquaintance is thoroughly glad that he was among those chosen.

Dr. Karl Muck, now famous as the Boston symphony orchestra conductor who had to play the "Star Spangled Banner" whether he liked it or not, says that the national anthem has no place on a symphony program—that it's in horrible bad taste. Of course the Germans are authorities on good taste.

The Honolulu newspapers, in criticizing the management of the marketing division, should be ashamed of themselves. Are they not aware that the marketing division, although publicly authorized, is a "private snap" and, therefore, its management is not subject to criticism?—Maui News.

By this time, no doubt, the kaiser is persuaded that when we Americans undertake a job, we do it up brown. That's a characteristic of our nation. Applying it to the war as a general proposition, he will see that we are bound to put him and his military machine out of business.—Manchester Union.

Our friends who would like to see Socialism in control in the United States are invited to take a look over where they are trying it out "on the dog"—in Russia.

Italy fights a lone fight no longer. France and Britain are at her side, and if needs be, the men of America will go "over the top" on the Plave front.

It may be a friendly game but we notice that a feature of this afternoon's diamond contest is the Mudd-slinging.

It has been almost a week since the kaiser reminded the Lord that they are allies.

If a reminder is needed, Red Cross seals may still be obtained at market prices.

Letters or TIMELY TOPICS

USE OF MUNICIPAL AUTOS

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir: There are a lot of awful mean people in this world, and a part of them are right here in Honolulu, and they are the meanest kind, for they want to know about city and county automobiles, and what they are doing. The automobile that particularly interests them at the present moment is the one bearing the plate "C. & C. 3406," supposed to be in the service of the police surgeon, and to be used on public business only. Still there are people in this city mean enough to want to know what per-cent-of-mileage automobile numbered "C. & C. 3406" puts in for the government and what for the use and convenience of the family, if any?

Of course, it is none of the public's business to make such a query, and they should know better. All those poor boobies have to do is to pay for the gasoline, oil, tires, and repairs incidental to running the auto, no matter for whose interest or pleasure the consumption of the above named articles is made.

Those inquisitive people should mind their own business (a city and county auto does not come under that head).

The first thing we know they will be asking questions about all the other city and county automobiles, and their uses.

It is strange how so many city and county automobiles are out on city and county work between 9 and 12 o'clock at night. One would never think that the municipality was so rushed that its autos must be on the "go" day and night, and what a lot of women we must employ, too.

BOOB.

HOMESTEADING IN HAWAII.

Honolulu, T. H., Nov. 27, 1917.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Dear Sir: I am afraid that I will have to butt heads with you on the risk of it being said that I talk on subjects that I know nothing about.

I do not know why people expect to grow farm produce in a tropical country that can be grown in other parts of the world. You are going against the nature of the plant what ever it may be, and also the laws of nature, which no one has been able to overcome. There is no more reason to expect to grow the things that grow so well in California here in Hawaii than if the farmers of California were expected to grow sugar cane there. It simply can't be done. Nature will not allow you to do so.

The planters on the islands have established a system that leads the world, if they were left alone. There is no place in this world where the small farmer, "except in Hawaii," expects to be a large farmer or planter to care for him, can him money, care for his crop, help him haul it to the mill, grind the cane for him, in fact, do every thing for him but spend the income that he expects at the end of the year, and because the large farmer refuses to do all of this he is condemned and cursed to high heaven.

There is a greater population in the territory today under the present system than you will ever have under any other system that can be worked out. These are days of big things, and any one wanting work and who wants to get along, can do so under the present order of things better than any other way.

The cultivation is of the very best, the very best farming implements are used—a thing that is utterly impossible with the small farmer; shorter hours for the laborer, better quarters in every way.

The writer has just returned from a four month's trip through the states by automobile, and as nearly 45 years of my life were on the farm and ranch, I feel able to speak. On our trip we passed through 28 states, and naturally took particular note of the farms and their surroundings, and can truthfully say that if numbers of the farms were put under one management, and worked for the good of all, there would be better yields, better farming, shorter hours, and better conditions in every way. Under the system there the farmer is compelled to do all of his own work, it is next to impossible to get any help, as they have no accommodations for the hired man, so he will not stay. Long hours is another factor that is against the farmer that wants help. Some of the farms, and not the smallest either, have never had money enough to paint their homes, not even when they were new, and they have never cleaned up around the place. These conditions have not existed on the islands for nearly 20 years.

This talk about the farmer being independent is a big joke. If the farmer wants anything, the other fellow sets the price. If the farmer has anything to sell, the other fellow sets the price, and when it comes to the voting end of it, it is another big joke, for there

are more people in an area of one block in some of the cities than the entire farming population of any two or three states, so where does the farmer come out?

There can be no doubting the fact that the farmer is the foundation of almost everything in this world. It is their willingness to stay out on the farm under adverse conditions that makes it possible for the people to live in the cities, or make the city possible at all, but it is going to be the large farm that will be worth while in the future.

Some of the places we passed on our journey were small farms in reality. They had two or three horses, two or three cows, and it took them the entire year to produce food for them. From early morning till late at night they were out gathering fodder for their stock for the winter. If this is people's idea of successful farming, let them keep the idea.

Personally, I do not think that the program of blending the many races is such a serious one. I think it is already solved if the people would only leave it alone. Some few people think it will be a very serious proposition when some of the younger generation come along to the voting stage and will take charge of the government, etc. You can be assured that the coming generation will be fully equal to the present generation, loyal and patriotic in every way. Some of the young people will scatter over the world, seeking their fortune, just the same as the people come to Hawaii, to try and better their condition, from other parts of the world.

I remain very truly yours,

ROBERT HORNER.

VOTES FOR SOLDIERS.

Honolulu, Nov. 25, 1917.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir: Pardon this, as it were a glass-bottomed skiff ride, if you please; but things seem to be skimming very much on the surface and it may be good "inoculation" to erase a small fraction of the cuticle of this "Pacific Paradise" and take a peek into the greenish attractions.

While it is not the object of American civilization to progress through induction since all the moral precepts lead from the heart out, yet there must be an abstract standpoint of some depth in order to arrive at a conclusion pertaining to any subject whatever.

Let us presume that in the course of natural events the present feudal system in Hawaii will vanish and she will become Americanized. The only thing about it that interests us is the process by which this phenomenon is approaching and which will eventually bring it about. The writer candidly believes that it is a question of such ramifications as to indirectly concern the whole world while directly it is one of the most pregnant omens to the United States.

Hawaii, "The Paradise of the Pacific!" Hawaii, "The Melting-pot of the Races!" Hawaii, with her "liquid sunshine, flowers and volcanoes" to America, is a novelty for tourists and a military garrison, nothing more.

Now, everyone who knows anything worth knowing knows that democracy is militant or nothing. She sharpens her wit and her sword on the same grindstone and both are absolutely indispensable to each other and the civilization they uphold.

The conditions in Hawaii at present are abnormal and undemocratic. If the fundamentals were logically in accord with democratic institutions every male—civilian and soldier—would be compelled to exercise the right of suffrage within his realm, both military and civil, to each and every office that concerns him.

The times are moving in this direction. That is why Hawaii is called the "melting-pot of the races." That is the portentous question that concerns not only the whole world indirectly, but that is the question that concerns your Uncle Samuel directly.

ELIGE L. KIRK.

WHAT THE SOLDIER WANTS

Fort Shafter, T. H., Nov. 27.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir: Apropos of the question which so often recurs in the Honolulu papers, "What can we do for the soldier?" I would suggest to the Honolulu people that all we desire is social recognition according to our individual merits. No discrimination against the uniform. We don't need anything else.

F. H. DRIVER, 3rd Engineers.

PERSONALITIES

C. E. MAYNE of E. O. Hall & Son, Ltd., has returned from the mainland.

MAJOR H. S. DOBNEY, of the Salvation Army, left Honolulu yesterday for the Orient, after an extended visit in this city. He is traveling



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around the world in the interest of women and children workers.

E. A. MOTT-SMITH, who has been quite ill for several days, is able to be in his office again.

J. F. CHILD, federal food commissioner for the territory, has gone to Maui to confer with the bean growers there.

ALEXANDER LINDSAY, JR., law partner in the firm of Mott-Smith and Lindsay, has returned from an extended vacation trip to the mainland.

VITAL STATISTICS

BORN.

POKIPALA—In Honolulu, November 26, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. David K.

Fokipala, of Kunaia Lane, a daughter.

MARRIED.

LEWIS-STRONG—In Honolulu, November 26, Harry L. Lewis, B Company, 25th Infantry to Miss Mattie Strong, Macon, Georgia. Witnesses, William Hutson and Mrs. L. L. Loubbouro.

NOTT-FLACHER—In Honolulu, November 25, 1917, Thomas S. Nott and Miss Violet Flacher, Rev. Samuel K. Kamaio, assistant pastor of Kaunakapili church, officiating; witnesses—Riley B. Seegers and Miss Abigail K. Pabis.

DIED.

OSS—In Honolulu, November 25, 1917, Mrs. Otto A. Oss, of 1418 Victoria street, 67 years, 10 months and 29 days old.

A Time Like the Present

In a time like the present the matter of investment of money presents many difficulties.

Not only are there unusual openings for investment in foreign securities, but the usual local and American securities are surrounded by puzzling conditions.

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